

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 CU-04 /119 W
----- 099071

R 101645Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3495

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR FOR POLAD & OPS

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS, AEAGC-OCO, AEAGB-CI(SO)

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 966

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB, UK, GE

SUBJECT: ARREST OF BRITISH SUBJECT ON TRANSIT ROUTE

1. BRITISH MISSION HAS INFORMED US UK CITIZEN SUSAN BALLANTINE, 23, A STUDENT AND DAUGHTER OF BRITISH JOURNALIST, WAS ARRESTED JUNE 1 AT GDR AUTOBAHN CHECKPOINT DREWITZ ON EXFILTRATION CHARGE. AT TIME OF ARREST, MISS BALLANTINE WAS TRAVELLING BY AUTO FROM BERLIN TO HELSTEDT IN COMPANY OF US CITIZENS (NON-FORCES PERSONNL) SUSAN LASCHE AND JAMES MARTIN, THE DRIVER, WHO REPORTED THE INCIDENT TO BRITISH AUTHORITIES. LASCHE AND MARTIN WERE PERMITTED TO PROCEED, BUT LASCHE ELECTED TO RETURN TO WEST BERLIN. MISS BALLANTINE'S FIANCE, VOKER BENES, TRAINER OF EAST BERLIN BFC DYNAMO SOCCER CLUB, IS REPORTEDLY ALSO UNDER ARREST. BRITISH INFORM US THAT SEVERAL OF THEIR SOLDIERS PRVIOUSLY REPORTED MISS BALLANTINE ATTEMPTED TO RECRUIT THEM FOR
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EXFILTRATION ACTIVITIES.

2. ARREST WAS CONFIRMED TO BRITISH MISSION THROUGH
LAWYER CHANNEL ON JUNE 4, AND AFTER SEVERAL UNSUCCESSFUL
ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION, BRITISH EMBASSY EAST
BERLIN WAS INFORMED ON JUNE 6 BY NOTE FROM GDR MFA THAT
MISS BALLANTINE WAS IN CUSTODY. UK EMBASSY BONN
IS IN TOUCH WITH FRG MFA TO HAVE LATTER TAKE UP CASE
WITH GDR IN TRANSIT TRAFFIC COMMISSION AS VIOLATION OF
TRANSIT AGREEMENT.

3. USCOB CONCURS.KLEIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: powellba2
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
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